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SUBJECT: BULGARIA: SPLIT ON EU BIOTECH CORN VOTE -  
FEBRUARY 25

REF: SECSTATE 14566

(U) We delivered reftel to the Bulgarian Ministries of Agriculture and Environment. Usually in such cases, the Agriculture Ministry has a positive opinion while the Ministry of Environment has a negative one. Working level regulators at both Ministries understand the issues very well, and always support the science based approach which is inline with the U.S. position. However, the final decision, especially at the Ministry of Environment is politically motivated and rarely changes. The best case scenario, for the upcoming vote, is for Bulgaria to abstain.

McEldowney